17. Shri Satyavir Tyagi, Dainik Hindustan

18 Shri Manmohan Sharma, Hindustan Samachar

19. Shri Om Prakash Pandit, Hindustan Samachar

20. Shri Shara'd Dwivedi, PTI Bhasha

21. Shri Ashok Sharma. Univarta

22. Shri Diwan Singh Mehta, Navbharat Times

23. Shri Madhusudan Sathe, Univarta

24. Shri Jagdish Prasad Chaturvedi, Deshbandhu

25. Shr; Hira Lai Choubey, Daily San-rnarg^ Calcutta

26. Shri Jagnnath Shastri, Daily Bhaskar, Bhopal

27. Shri Rajiv Pandey, Univarta.

28. Shri Ramji Prasad Singh, Hindustan Samachar.

29. Shri Rafiq Shastri, Univarta

30. Smt. Manuhnri Pathak, Navjyoti, Ajmer

31. Shri Surendra Dwivedi, Hindustan Samachar

31. Shri Sunder Lai Kukreja, Dainik Hindustan.

3197. *[Transferred to the 1st December,* 1986].

General Amnesty for and rehabilitation of the Co\. irt-martiidIed defence personnel

3198. SHRI T. R. BALU;
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 137 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st July, 1986 aKd state:

(a) whether the court-martial of army personnel following the Operation Blue Star in Punjab is over; if so, the total number of army personnel involved and the punishments awarded rank wise;

(b) what is the highest rank involved;

(c) what was the maximum punishment awarde'd;

(d) whether any of the oersonrie] were released subsequently; if so, what is their number, rank-wise;

(e) whether any of the cases were re-viewed; if so, t'ne details thereof, giving rank-wise figures;

(f) whether any of the personnel were ret li ■■■hat arc their rank-wise figures: and

(g) whether Government propose to declare general amnesty and to rehabilitate all those involved- if not. what ate th; reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRl ARUN SINGH): (a) to (g) Consequent to Operation Blue Star, an insignificant proportion of Sikh troops serving in several units located throughout the country, committed mutiny, desertion an'd other offences including murder. The number involved against whom action was initiated is 2, 337, all belonging to Other Ranks. No Officer or JCO deserted. An overwhelmingly large number demonstrated the loyalty and patriotism that have always been displayed by Sikh troops.

In a'ddition, 393 personnel consisting of 65 Officers, 104 JCOs and 224 Other Ranks were proceeded against for other acts of indiscipline, such as failure of command, dereliction of duty etc.

Thus, a total of 2, 730 personnel were tried by Courts Martial or summarily or administratively dealt with in accordance with the gravity of offences.

The requisite details are as under: —

	Officers	JCOs	OR	Total
(i) Total Nos involved in				
(a) desertion, mutiny etc.	—	—	2337	2337
(b) other acts of indiscipline, such as dereliction of duty in command.	65	104	224	393
TOTAL :	65	104	2561	2730
(ii) Total Nos tried by Courts Martial, summarily or administratively.	63	103	2560	2726
(iii) Total Nos. against whom disciplinary action is pending	2	1	1 (absconding)	4
(iv) Punishment awarded :				
(a) RI in Civil jail with dismissal.	—	6	270	276
(b) Dismissal/discharged	—	19	108	127
(c) Minor punishment/acquitted/exonerated	63	78	2151	2292
(d) Not retained in service on Medical grounds unwilling to serve	—	—	31	31
GRAND TOTAL	63	103	2560	2726

Out of the total of 2726 army person nel, against whom action has been com pleted., 2292 personnel have been retained in service after minor punishments or ac quittal. This includes 211 recruits who were reinstated in Defence Security Corps, out of the 237 recruits v iiscliarg-ed. 276 personnel involved in serious offences were committed to civil jails and dismissed from service. 127 personnel could not be retained in found unsuitable for retention or dne to lack of allegiance. 31 personnel were either foun'd medically unfit or unwilling to serve. Highest rank involved was officer of the rank of Brigadier who was awarded displeasure fo_r dereliction. of duties. Maximum punishment, i. e. life imprisonment and dismissal was awarded to two Other Ranks. 1995 Other Ranks wh_0 were awarded imprisonment have since been released on completion/remission ot their sentences. In accordance with Army Act, 1950\ each case has been considered on its merits and redressal granted, wherever feasible, with fairness and due leniency, keeping in view the emotional and psy-chological $factor_s$ involved. Considering the nature of certain offences committed, no general amnesty to the persons involved can be considered.